Attorney Docket: 061063-0306592 Client Reference: OSP-15151

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Fre PATENT APPLICATION OF

Confirmation No.: Unassigned

HASEGAWA et al.

Group Art Unit: 2823

Appln. No. 10/696,702

Examiner: Estrada, Michelle

Filed: October 30, 2003

Title: SEMICONDUCTOR MANUFACTURING METHOD AND SEMICONDUCTOR

MANUFACTURING APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Attached is a PTO-1449.

The references were cited in the parent application, 10/254,601, on which the instant application relies for priority under 35 U.S.C. §120. The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider each reference and return the PTO-1449 in accordance with MPEP §609 by initialing each reference and signing and dating the PTO-1449. The undersigned certifies that the references were first cited by the Patent Office not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS.

This IDS is intended to be in full compliance with the rules, but should the Examiner find any part of its required content to have been omitted, <u>prompt</u> notice to that effect is earnestly solicited, along with additional time under Rule 97(f), to enable Applicants to comply fully.

This IDS is being submitted prior to the first Official Action on the merits, accordingly, no fee is due.

HASEGAWA et al. -- 10/696,702 Client/Matter: 061063-0306592

Consideration of the enclosed references and prompt and favorable examination on the merits are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Pillsbury Winthrop DLP

ohn P. Darling

Reg. No.:44,482 / Tel. No.: (703) 905-2045 Fax No.: (703) 905-2500

Date: December 9, 2003

P.O. Box 10500 McLean, VA 22102 (703) 905-2000

Enclosures:

PTO-1449 Cited References

JPD/tmt

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